

GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Puget Sound Regional Council Board Room

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: Councilmember Kimberly Allen, Councilmember Layne Barnes, Commissioner Walt Canter, Councilmember Sally Clark, Councilmember Richard Conlin, Executive Dow Constantine, Chair; Councilmember Larry Phillips, Councilmember Robert Sternoff

Chair Constantine convened the meeting at 4:07 PM.

King County Demographer Chandler Felt informed the GMPC that new 2010 census data is available and provided a brief overview. Councilmember Sternoff noted that Kirkland is now the 5th largest city in King County. Councilmember Phillips pointed out that 25% of new population growth in Washington occurred in King County.

I - A Public Comment:

Peter Rimbos of the Greater Maple Valley Area Council raised several concerns about the proposed master planned developments (MPD's) within the City of Black Diamond. Mr. Rimbo's provided written comments which are attached to this meeting summary. A wide range of transportation issues were mentioned based on the belief that traffic impacts of the proposed development would have serious impacts on nearby rural roads in unincorporated King County and on State Route 169.

Cindy Proctor, resident of the Black Diamond area, also raised concerns about the proposed MPD's within Black Diamond. Ms. Proctor pointed out that public facilities, such as new schools, that are needed to serve the Urban MPD's are being proposed to be located in the Rural Area. She called for training of local citizens so they may better understand how to participate in land use processes. Ms. Proctor also called for King County to redesignate the proposed development as Rural if adopted policies and regulations are not followed.

Gil Bordelson, resident of the Black Diamond area, focused his comments on environmental issues related to the proposed MPD's within the City of Black Diamond. He supports low impact development and monitoring of stormwater runoff before it enters Lake Sawyer. Mr. Bordelson also called for buffers between incompatible land uses.

Tim Trahimovich of Futurewise expressed strong support for the update of the CPP's, particularly the transportation and facilities/services policies, which he believes are significant improvements over existing policy. He called for policy TO-9 to be revised to call for regional and local funding of infrastructure to be prioritized to support growth centers. Mr. Trahimovich stated that policy PFS-2 does not fully comply with the Growth Management Act in terms of when sewer service may be extended to the Rural Area. He also requested that the CPP's call for consolidation of special purpose districts. Finally, he called for the CPP's to require monitoring of the effects of climate change on water supplies.

II. Update of the Countywide Planning Policies

Rob Odle of the City of Redmond began the staff presentation by reminding members that the April 27 GMPC meeting will be held at Renton City Hall and the first hour of that meeting will be dedicated to public comments. He pointed out that today's staff presentation will focus on transportation and public facilities and services. Attached to this meeting summary is the slide presentation used for this staff presentation.

Michael Hubner of the Suburban Cities Association began with an overview of the transportation policies. Michael pointed out that the updated CPP's are proposed to be organized in a way that is similar in structure to the Transportation chapter of VISION 2040. The MPP headings of "Supporting the Growth Strategy," "Greater Options and Mobility," and "Maintenance, Management and Safety," are reflected by the headings "Supporting Growth," "Mobility," and "System Operations" respectively in the CPPs.

Mr. Hubner stated that based on preliminary feedback from some stakeholders, IJT staff anticipates additional discussion and refinement of policies related to one or more of the following issues:

- Definitions of terms (e.g. centers, transportation demand management, transportation system);
- Clarifying the role of local and regional roadways in the transportation system;
- Potential overlap among several policies within the Transportation Chapter; and
- Better linkages and integration with related policies in other chapters, particularly Development Patterns, Environment, and Economy.

Executive Constantine stated that King County has 1700 miles of roads that we are responsible for and he asked for a policy emphasizing maintenance and preservation of existing roads. Executive Constantine also stated we should be emphasizing partnerships for transportation funding and he called for a policy supporting cooperative financing and interjurisdictional coordination. He also asked about policies related to demand management and tolling. We should not cut off the possibility of moving in this direction in the future.

Councilmember Sternoff stated he would not like to see policies that preclude looking for other money.

Staff responded that they will follow up on these suggestions.

Chandler Felt presented an overview of the facilities and services chapter. He noted that this chapter consolidates elements of several chapters in the current CPPs, including Contiguous and Orderly Development, Community Character, and Siting Public Capital Facilities, as well as provisions of several Framework Policies.

Specifically, the proposed policies address the following:

- Urban and Rural levels of service;
- Coordination among jurisdictions;
- Water supply;
- Sewage disposal;
- Solid waste, energy, telecommunications;
- Human and community services; and
- Siting public capital facilities:

Councilmember Barnes raised concerns about rural and urban levels of service and stated that sewers for rural public schools should not be encouraged, and schools should not be built in the Rural Area if they are needed to serve Urban areas.

Commissioner Canter called for fire districts to be included in the discussions about utility policies. Staff responded that discussions are underway with utility stakeholders about these policies.

Councilmember Conlin agrees with the comments about policy PFS-02 – not extending sewers to Rural Areas and Resource Lands for new developments. Staff responded that they will look into this issue

Executive Constantine requested option be developed that address extension of public services into the Rural Area. He asked about how existing policies line up with Vision 2040. Staff responded that PSRC staff have raised concerns about existing policies that allow sewer extensions into the Rural Area to serve public schools.

Councilmember Sternoff wants to be sure the policies are broadly written. He mentioned the need for alternative ways of handling solid waste. He also called for policy language to reduce solid waste.

Chandler Felt mentioned the ongoing discussions between King County and utility purveyors. **Commissioner Canter** stated that they are making good progress with those discussions. He called for policies that emphasize cooperation between cities and special districts. He prefers to see existing policies changed that call for cities to take over special districts.

III. The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.